CAPSULE SUMMARY BA-1934 Pearce House 11762 Glen Arm Road Glen Arm, Baltimore County Ca. 1820 Private

Based on exterior architectural evidence, the Pearce House, initially occupied by Dr. David .S. Gittings, appears to have been constructed circa 1820, in the earliest years of settlement in the area now known as Glen Arm. The 1850 county atlas indicates that Glen Arm, which formed at the intersection of Old Harford Road (now known as Glen Arm Road) and the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike (now Long Green Pike), was nonexistent as late as the mid-19th century. At that time, only a few farms, primarily occupied by the Green, Billingsley, Haile, Leach, and Gittings families, comprised the community. After completion of his medical degree, Dr. Gittings settled in the Glen Arm vicinity and began practicing medicine. The Gittings property was one of several in the area around Glen Arm that belonged to the family. Dr. Gittings remained farm through the 1870s. Over this period, the physician was married three times and fathered nine children. His first wife, Juliana West Howard, died in 1847 after twenty-four years of marriage. One year later, Gittings married Arabella Young, who died in 1861. Exterior architectural evidence suggests that the parged stone wing was constructed around the time of this second marriage. Seven years after the death of his second wife, Gittings married Laura A. King.

The Pearce House is a vernacular dwelling comprised of a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide main block of wood frame construction clad in aluminum siding and a two-story circa 1850 parged stone wing. The entire structure sits on a solid parged stone foundation, and each portion has a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The roof pitch of the frame portion is steep, while that of the stone portion is shallow. One rebuilt stretcher bond interior chimney rises from the gable end wall of the stone wing. The building fronts southeast and sits back from the road at the end of a long gravel driveway. The façade, or southeast elevation of the frame block features a side entry with a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door and two 9/9 windows. A one-story, three-bay-wide porch with a half-hipped roof supported by chamfered wood posts shelters these openings. A square-edged wood balustrade spans the sides and two façade bays of the porch. All openings on the frame portion of the dwelling have vinyl surrounds and sills. Three 6/9 windows pierce the second story. Two 9/9 and two 6/6 windows with vinyl surrounds and rowlock sills pierce the wing. A circa 1960 garage of solid cinderblock construction is also located on the property.

Inventory No. BA-1934

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of F	Property	(indicate preferred na	ime)						
historic			3250						
other	Pearce House								
2. Location									
street and number	11762 Glen Ar	m Road						not for	publication
city, town	Glen Arm							_ vicinity	63
county	Baltimore Cou	nty							
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing a	address	es of all	owners	1			
name	Glen Meadows	Retirement Community							
street and number	11630 Glen Ar	m Road				teleph	one	Not Ava	ilable
city, town	Glen Arm		state	MD		zip coo	de	21057	
Contril Contril Determ Record	buting Resource buting Resource mined Eligible for mined Ineligible fo ded by HABS/HA	ort or Research Report at MHT							
6. Classifica	tion								
Category district _X_building(s)structuresiteobject	Ownership public _X_privateboth	government _ health care _	red	igion cial nsporta ork in pro known cant/nol	/culture ation ogress	Cont!	ributir	f Contribut	ncontributing buildings sites structure objects Total ting Resources

7. Description		Inventory No. BA-1934
Condition		
excellent	deteriorated	
X good	ruins	
fair	altered	

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1820, the Pearce House is a vernacular dwelling comprised of a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide main block of wood frame construction clad in aluminum siding and a two-story parged stone wing. The entire structure sits on a solid parged stone foundation, and each portion has a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The roof pitch of the frame portion is steep, while that of the stone portion is shallow. One rebuilt stretcher bond interior chimney rises from the gable end wall of the stone wing. The building fronts southeast and sits back from the road at the end of a long gravel driveway. The façade, or southeast elevation of the frame block features a side entry with a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door and two 9/9 windows. A one-story, three-bay-wide porch with a half-hipped roof supported by chamfered wood posts shelters these openings. A square-edged wood balustrade spans the sides and two façade bays of the porch. All openings on the frame portion of the dwelling have vinyl surrounds and sills. Three 6/9 windows pierce the second story. Two 9/9 and two 6/6 windows with vinyl surrounds and rowlock sills pierce the wing.

A circa 1960 garage of solid cinderblock construction is also located on the property. The one-story, one-bay-rectangular structure features a front gable roof clad in corrugated sheet metal, weatherboard cladding in the gable peak, and a poured concrete slab foundation. The façade of the structure is open.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. BA-1934
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 _X 1800-1899 _X 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	 economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement 	health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government re religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	1820 capresent		Architect/Builder Un	known
Construction da	ates 1820 ca., 1850 ca.			
Evaluation for:				
	National Register	N	laryland Register _	Xnot evaluated
Dr		of classificance address	sian applicable suitaria fallar	und by a parrative discussion of th

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Based on exterior architectural evidence, the Pearce House, initially occupied by Dr. David .S. Gittings, appears to have been constructed circa 1820, in the earliest years of settlement in the area now known as Glen Arm. The 1850 county atlas indicates that Glen Arm, which formed at the intersection of Old Harford Road (now known as Glen Arm Road) and the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike (now Long Green Pike), was nonexistent as late as the mid-19th century. At that time, only a few expansive farms, primarily occupied by the Green, Billingsley, Haile, and Leach families, comprised the community. One of these farms was that of Dr. Gittings. Dr. Gittings, born in Baltimore on 17 August 1797, studied at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania and at Maryland University of Medicine. Afterward, he studied and practiced medicine in Scotland and England. After completion of his medical degree, Dr. Gittings settled in the Glen Arm vicinity and began practicing medicine. Located near the intersection that would become Glen Arm, the Gittings property was one of several in this vicinity that belonged to the family. Dr. Gittings remained on the circa 1820 farm through the 1870s.³ Over this period, the physician was married three times and fathered nine children. His first wife, Juliana West Howard, died in 1847 after twenty-four years of marriage. One year later, Gittings married Arabella Young, who died in 1861. Exterior architectural evidence suggests that the parged stone wing was constructed around the time of this second marriage. Seven years after the death of his second wife, Gittings married Laura A. King.4

In 1877, the village of Glen Arm, although unnamed, was beginning to take shape. A pre-1850 tavern that had existed along the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike remained in use as a public house called the Greenwood Hotel operated by H. Curtin, and additional dwellings and a general store had been constructed

J.C. Sidney, Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).
 J. Thomas Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem,

³ Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ Scharf, p. 917.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1934

Name Pearce House, 11762 Glen Arm Road, Glen Arm, Baltimore County Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

along the road.⁵ The village eventually formed as a station located along the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad, which was constructed between 1877 and 1915. After the establishment of the railroad through this area, Glen Arm grew at an unprecedented rate, with a number of buildings being erected in the triangle of land bordered by old Harford Road, the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike, and the railroad line.⁶ Although the village of Glen Arm grew significantly through the early 1900s, the land to the west of the community remained rural, and has retained that character through the late 20th century.

⁵ Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.

⁶ Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1934

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979. Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _	.10 Acre		
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown		
Quadrangle name	Towson	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1820, the Pearce House has been associated with the 483.41 acres of land known as tax parcel 162 of map 62 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

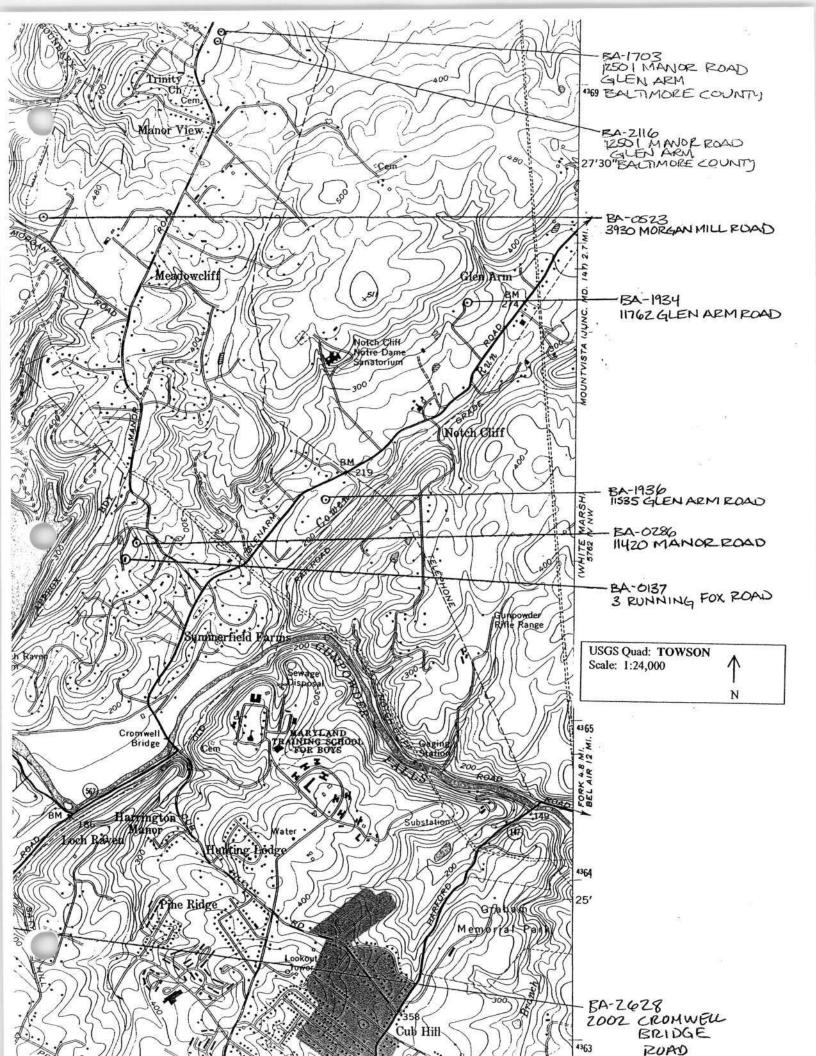
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians				
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 14, 2001		
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199		
city or town	Washington	state	DC		

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





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